

## Message Text

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47

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 XMB-02

CIEP-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 COME-00 IO-10

/049 W

----- 002751

R 021355 MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8930

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PASS OPIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV, TS

SUBJ: VISIT BY INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 95265

1. KHALED CHAABOUNI, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL AND NO. 2 MAN IN TUNISIAN INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY (API), INFORMED EMBOFF THAT HE AND PROMOTION DIRECTOR ALI EL HICHERI, WILL BEGIN A VISIT TO US MAY 15 WHICH WILL INCLUDE TRIP TO SEVERAL CITIES IN ORDER TO DISCUSS INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES WITH US FIRMS POTENTIALLY INTERSTED IN TUNISIA. CHAABOUNI SAID THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT ARE BEING MADE BY AZOUZ ENNIFAR, NATIONAL OFFICE OF TOURISM AND API REPRESENTATIVE IN NEW YORK CITY, POSSIBLY IN COORDINATION WITH OPIC. HE SAID HE HAD LITTLE INFORMATION ON COMPANIES TO BE VISITED BUT FELT THAT VISIT WOULD BE RELATIVELY LOW KEY WITH LITTLE PUBLICITY AND INTENDED PRIMARILY TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO POTENTIAL INVESTORS AND FACILITATE THEIR POSSIBLE PROJECTS IN TUNISIA.

2. CHAABOUNI ALSO STATED THAT API REQUEST TO HAVE UNDP  
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ASSIGN INVESTMENT ADVISOR (JOHN HOEVELER) TO API HAD REACHED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION DIVISION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HOWEVER, UNDP RES. REP. INFORMED EMBOFF THAT MOFA HAS NOT FORWARDED APPLICATION EVEN THOUGH UNDP HAS INDICATED UNOFFICIALLY TO MOFA THAT IT BELIEVES PROJECT WOULD BE EXTREMELY USEFUL FOR TUNISIA AND WOULD ASSIST ITS EFFORTS TO ATTRACT ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMPANIES INTERESTED IN INVESTING IN TUNISIA. DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION HAMED AMMAR HAD PREVIOUSLY INDICATED TO EMBOFF THAT HE DIDN'T THINK SUCH A FOREIGN CONSULTANT WAS REQUIRED SINCE API HAD ESTABLISHED SOUND WORKING ORGANIZATION WHICH HAD SUCCEEDED IN ATTRACTING CONSIDERABLE AMOUNTS OF EUROPEAN INVESTMENT CAPITAL. EMBOFF HAD POINTED OUT DIFFICULTIES IN FOLLOW-UP WITH US FIRMS AND IMPORTANCE THAT HIGH-LEVEL GOVT OFFICIALS WERE ATTACHING TO GREATER TRANSFERS OF US TECHNOLOGY THROUGH PRIVATE INVESTMENT ROUTE. HOWEVER, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT API WILL HAVE TO EXERT FURTHER PRESSURE IN ORDER TO GET MOFA TO FORWARD ITS REQUEST TO UNDP. TIENKEN

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NNN

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES, VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchant0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION OPIC  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 STATE 95265  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchant0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 AUG 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by buchant0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971006  
**Subject:** VISIT BY INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY OFFICIALS  
**TAGS:** EINV, TS, (CHAABOUNI, KHALED), (HICHERI, ALI EL)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006